Nick Vlahopoulos

Biography:
Nick Vlahopoulos is a Professor in the Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering (NAME). He received his PhD degree in NAME from the University of Michigan in 1989 and joined the University of Michigan as an Assistant Professor in 1996 after working in the Industry for seven years. He was promoted to Associate Professor without tenure in 1999, received tenure in 2001, and promoted to Professor in 2005. As an educator, he has supported financially and graduated 25 Ph.D. students. The areas of his research are: numerical methods in structural-acoustics, design of complex systems, blast event simulations and learning from unstructured environments. Naval Centers and shipbuilding companies utilize simulation tools that he developed for mid-to-high frequency vibro-acoustic analysis. He also developed the multidisciplinary design optimization capability of the Rapid Ship Design Environment. The latter is a ship design system managed by the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Carderock. His research has received funding from the US Navy, US Army, US Air Force, NSF, NASA, and Ford Motor Company. He has served as the Undergraduate program Chair in NAME, and he has been the Graduate and Master’s program Chair in NAME for the past ten years. He served in several CoE committees. He is an Associate Editor in the Journal of Acoustical Society of America. In addition to his professional achievements, he is a member and a finisher in the “50 States 50 Marathons” running club, which demonstrates his determination and optimism when working towards his objectives.

Position Statement:
If elected to the executive committee I intend to represent and serve the interests of the faculty who elected me in a fair, objective, and considerate manner. I believe that administrative decisions must be inclusive and focus on the quality of education offered to both undergraduate and graduate students through teaching and research. I will strive to foster a diverse and inclusive environment that makes all individuals feel welcome and free to pursue their professional and educational objectives. Offering a balanced work-life experience is important for faculty to be productive and creative. Attracting and retaining the best faculty and students leads to innovation and recognition of our success by the engineering communities that we all serve. Finally, I believe that administrative financial decisions must be made in a responsible manner because they affect the costs of tuition and conducting research.